

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figures 1 and 2. This sheet, which includes Figures 1 and 2, replaces the original sheet of Figures 1 and 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Office Action dated April 29, 2008. This Office Action rejected all claims pending at that time. Specifically, the Office Action rejected Claims 1-2, 5-8, 11-16, 26-28 and 31-34 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Wu et al, U.S. Patent No. 7,216,133 (Wu) in view of Suishu et al., U.S. Publication No. 2005/0055523 (Suishu).

While not conceding that the cited references qualify as prior art, but instead to expedite prosecution, Applicants have chosen to respectfully disagree and traverse the rejection as follows. Applicants reserve the right, for example, in a continuing application, to establish that the cited references, or other references cited now or hereafter, do not qualify as prior art as to an invention embodiment previously, currently, or subsequently claimed.

Nothing in the cited passages of combination of Wu and Suishu disclose (or render obvious) "storing first write information in an entry of a first tag table, wherein the first write information comprises the first tag and an identity of a logical block of a first storage object where data D is to be written, wherein the first tag table is stored in first memory," as recited in independent Claims 1, 15, 26, and 28.

Page 4 of the present Office Action asserts that Figures 3A-3B and related text, col. 8, lines 56-59, col. 6, lines 4-17, and col. 6, lines 18-40 of Wu disclose the recited element of the independent Claims 1, 15, 26, and 28. Regarding Figures 3A-3B and the associated text of Wu, both the Logical Physical Tables (e.g., logical physical table 105 and logical view synch table 308) illustrate columns for storing the data item, local_cn (local change enumeration), and version (information regarding the replica that made the change). Nothing in Figures 3A-3B and the associated text discloses (or renders obvious) "an identity of a logical block of a first storage object where data D is to be written," as recited by independent Claims 1, 15, 26, and 28.

PATENT

One with skill in the art would not expect the cited passages of Wu and Suishu to disclose the cited element of the independent claims because there is simply no entry in the logical physical tables disclosed in Wu for storing “an identity of a logical block of a first storage object where data D is to be written”.

Also, col. 8, lines 56-59 of Wu states “[f]urther, the version in column 310 contains information about which replica made the change and the chronological order that the change was made (in this case a replica labeled C at time 101”, which merely references the abovementioned version column in the Logical Physical Tables. Col. 6, lines 14-17 of Wu states: “Items are then sent from the logical view 110 in replica 102 to the logical view 112 in replica 104. Replica 104 can map the sent items from the logical view 112 through the catalog 116 into the physical tables 107, 108, and 109,” which also does not address storing “an identity of a logical block of a first storage object where data D is to be written” (*emphasis added*), as recited in the independent claims. Finally, col. 6, lines 18-40 of Wu merely discloses folders for controlling the “scope of synchronization,” which, again, does not address storing “an identity of a logical block of a first storage object where data D is to be written,” as recited in the independent claims.

Hence, the cited passages in the combination of Wu and Suishu does not disclose (or render obvious) each and every element of independent Claims 1, 15, 26, and 28. Thus, independent Claims 1, 15, 26, and 28, and all dependent claims are patentable over the cited passages of Wu and Suishu. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

PATENT

Claims 9-10 and 35-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Wu in view of Suishu as applied to claims 1 and 7, and further in view of Crockett et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,088,697 (Crockett). Claims 9-10 and 35-36 are patentable over the cited passages of the combination of Wu, Suishu, and Crockett in view of their dependency on allowable independent Claims 1 and 28. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

If any extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) are required in order for this submission to be considered timely, Applicant hereby petitions for such extensions. Applicant also hereby authorizes that any fees due for such extensions or any other fee associated with this submission, as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17, be charged to deposit account 502306.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric A. Stephenson
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 38,321
Telephone: (512) 439-5093
Facsimile: (512) 439-5099